

UTAH FACT SHEET

Oil Shale Research, Development and Demonstration Nominations

The BLM received eight (8) nominations for oil shale RD&D leases in Utah.

A total of two (2) RD&D nominations for parcels in Utah are being forwarded for further consideration: the nomination from Oil Shale Exploration Co., LLC, and the nomination from Oil Tech, Inc.

Both of the applicants are Utah-based companies.

The parcels associated with the two nominations in Utah are in Uintah County, in the area served by the BLM Vernal Field Office.

Both parcels lie approximately 50 miles south of Vernal.

Each oil shale RD&D nomination encompasses a 160-acre tract and associated preference rights to an additional contiguous area of 4,960 acres to be reserved for a preferential right to convert to a commercial lease at a future time after additional BLM review.

In this way, each RD&D nomination identifies 5,120 acres.

All of the acres identified in the nominations will be eventually developed *only if* both RD&D proposals are cleared during the next round of review and both are later able to convert their adjacent reserved acres upon additional BLM review.

If neither of the two proposals are allowed to advance beyond the NEPA analysis that represents the next round of BLM's evaluation, then *no* (0) acres of public land in Utah will be leased under the RD&D oil shale program.

RD&D leasing is proceeding on a separate track from commercial oil shale leasing, which is being examined in a programmatic EIS now underway with scoping meetings last week in Utah.

The direction to prepare this EIS and a timetable for initiating commercial oil shale leasing is contained in Section 369 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

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